REPORT

OF THE

SHEFFIELD CONFERENCE,

OF THE

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

OF

LATTER DAY SAINTS,

HELD IN THE

HALL OF SCIENCE, ROCKINGHAM-ST.,

SHEFFIELD,

NOVEMBER 24TH, 1850.

PRESIDENT.	SECRETARIES.
J, W. CUMMINGS.	H. J. HUDSON.
	S. J. LEES.

SHEFFIELD:
STEPHEN NEW, PRINTER, MARKET-PLACE AND WAINGATE.
1850.

	BRANCHES.	PRESIDENTS.	Seventies	Elders	Priests.	Teachers	Deacons.	Removed.	Received.	Cut Off.	Emigrated	Baptized.	Dead.	Total.	Amount donated as Conference Fund. £.	s.	d.	Amount donated as perpetual Emigration Fund. £.	s.	d.
	Sheffield	Elder J. V Long	2	14	15	15	4	3	19	12	11	64	0	417	4	0	0	4	14	11
2	Nottingham	" Wm Brewerton		6	11	5	5	8	6	6	0	123	3	362	2	16	0	2	4	8
3	New Brinsley	" Wardle		1	6	2	1	2	2	5	0	3	0	42		8	0			
4	Eastwood	" J Stones		2	5	4	2	5	3	2	0	15	1	65		5	8			
5	Heanor	" Wm. Stones		1	2	2	1	5	1	9	0	8	0	45		1	6			
6	Arnold	" Wm. Hasseldine		2	4	2	1	0	0	5	0	44	1	127	1	3	2			
7	Calverton	" T. Lister		1	2	2	1	0	0	2	0	7	0	55						
8	Mansfield	" M. Slack		3	3	4	3	1	2	15	0	9	1	121	2	0	0	1	13	5
9	Sutton			0	2	1	2	2	0	6	0	3	0	42		6	0			
10	Rotherham	" J. Hill		3	7	3	2	6	0	1	1	10	0	73		18	0			
11	Scholes	" J. Ward		1	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	14						
12	Whiston	" T. Bladen		1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	13						
13	Woodhouse	" H. Roper		4	4	4	2	5	0	1	0	2	0	50		17	1			
14	Deepcar	" G. Rirtles		1	2	2	0	0	3	1	0	2	0	21		7	6			
15	Doncaster	" G. Yeardley		3	7	2	2	3	2	3	0	10	0	50		14	2			
16	Misson	" Richardson		0	4	1	1	6	1	6	14	3	0	27		4	4			
17	Stainbro'	" R. Palfreyman		4	2	2	1	2	5	0	0	1	0	19		9	4			
18	Pilley	" J. Wadsworth		3	5	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	35		6	0		7	6
19	Skellow	" Wm. Wright		2	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	52		15			4	6
20	Chesterfield	" I. Allen		5	4	4	4	4	2	6	0	9	0	192		14				
21	Bolsover	" C. Longson		0	2	3	1	0	0	2	0	6	0	33		1	0		2	6
22	Whaley	" S. Cope		1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10						
23	Staveley	" Wm. Cartledge		1	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	3	1	19						
24	Mattersea	" J. Lee		0	3	1	1	0	0	0	3	3	0	45						
25	Gringley			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	6						
26	Attercliffe	" C. Wharton		2	3	2	1	8	4	0	1	5	0	30		6	7			
27	Calver			0	2	1	0	0	1	2	0	4	1	33		5	6			
28	Clay Cross	" J. Cutts		3	2	1	0	1	7	3	0	11	0	43		2	6			
29	Sherland	" T. Hunt		1	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	17						
30	Hyson Green	" Newbold		2	2	2	1	0	0	3	0	46	10	84		18	8			
31	South Normington			0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	7						
32	Lambley	" J. Mame		1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	13						
		Total	2	68	111	71	41	70	74	97	33	408	9	2162	18	0	4	9	7	6

REPORT, &c.

According to previous announcement, the Conference assembled in the Hall of Science, November 24th, 1850, at half-past Ten o'Clock, a. m. The Meeting was called to order by Elder Brewerton, after which it was moved and carried that Elder J. W. Cummings preside over the Conference assembled, and H. J. Hudson and S. J. Lees, act as Secretaries. The Meeting was then opened by singing a hymn and prayer by the President, after which another hymn was sung by the choir. The President then arose and said, I feel grateful for the privilege I enjoy this morning, and am happy to see so many of the Saints present. I am aware that the inclemency of the weather has prevented many of the Saints in the surrounding branches from meeting with us; therefore, we should be thankful for this privilege. We have met on one of the most important occasions that we could be assembled together upon. We have not met to discuss whether baptism is for the remission of sins, or to dispute about the *rotten systems* of men; but we have assembled to do business for the kingdom of GOD. Therefore, we should seek the spirit of the Lord, that our hearts may be made to rejoice, and that we may be enabled to transact the business that may come before us in righteousness. This is the third time I have met the Sheffield Saints in Conference. I have been in your midst about 11 months, and perhaps it will be the last time I shall meet with many of you in this land. I therefore wish to discharge the duties devolving upon me on this occasion, that the honest in heart may be led to embrace the covenant which we have received. I believe there are many in this part who will ere long embrace it. We shall present such items of business before you as we deem necessary for the welfare of the work in this part of the vineyard. I wish you to vote one way or the other, acting upon the integrity of your hearts, in all matters that may come before you. I feel by the spirit that unity of action will characterise all our movements this day. Let us manifest that we are determined to be united in all our actions, and let those actions be in accordance with the revelations of God, that we may ere long enjoy His presence. Before presenting the various items of business, I wish to ascertain your minds relative to the authorities of this Church, and when we have got through the business, we will hear from the visiting brethren, that we may be blessed and rejoice together.

The following resolutions were then put to the meeting and adopted:—

First,—That we acknowledge and sustain Brigham Young as President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in all the world, and Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards, as his counsellors.

Secondly,—That we sustain the twelve apostles, as the travelling High Council, in all the world.

Thirdly.—That we sustain Elder Orson Pratt, as the President of the Church of Jesus Christ, in the British Isles, and F. D. Richards, as his counsellor.

Fourthly.—That we uphold and sustain all the authorities of this Church.

Fifthly.—That Elder Brewerton labour in Nottingham district as before.

Sixthly.—That Elder Slack be released from the Mansfield district, and have the privilege to go and labour in the Liverpool Conference.

Seventhly.—That Elder Hardy be released from the Chesterfield, and go to labour in the Mansfield district.

Eighthly.—That Elder G. E. Taylor take the charge of the Chesterfield District, including Worksop.

Ninthly.—That Elder Kirk be released from the Doncaster District, and have the privilege to emigrate.

Tenthly.—That Sheffield and Doncaster be united into one district, and that Elder Long take the charge of the same.

Eleventhly.—That Elder Long be liberated from the presidency of the Sheffield Branch, and that Elder Roper succeed him in the presidency of the same.

Twelfthly.—That Elder John Memmott be the general Book agent for this Conference.

Thirteenth.—That John Parkin be the Treasurer for the Sheffield Branch, also Conference Treasurer for the perpetual Emigration Fund.

Fourteenthly.—That Elder Myers be the Secretary for the perpetual Emigration Fund.

Fifteenthly.—That Elder S. Perks take the presidency of the Woodhouse Branch.

Sixteenthly.—That Elder Wm Memmott be appointed to preside over the Deepcar Branch.

Seventeenthly.—That George Bramwell, now a priest in the Deepcar Branch, be ordained to the office of an Elder.

Eighteenthly.—That Charles Longson, now a priest, be ordained to the office of an Elder, and continue to preside over the Bolsover Branch.

Nineteenthly.—That Elder Wharton continue to preside over the Attercliffe Branch.

Twentiethly.—That Elder James Works travel in this Conference under the directions of the president.

Twentyfirstly. Moved that this Conference accept the appointment of Elder Lewis Robbins to the presidency of the said Conference, and that they uphold and sustain him in that office.

After the above motions were passed, Elder Cummings gave a statement of the financial affairs, of the Conference Book Agency &c, as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
Due to the Office at Liverpool, Jan. 1st, 1850.....	55	10	4
Received since that time.....	213	2	2½
	£268	12	6½
Monies remitted to Liverpool since Jan. 1st, 1850...	136	0	0
Books in the hands of Sub-agents	76	12	1
Books in hand of General Agent.....	30	14	9
Money in hand.....	25	5	8½
	£268	12	6½

The above is the condition of the Book agency, up to the 15th of Dec., 1850.

Money donated to J. W. Cummings, since Jan. 1st, 1850.....	35	5	1
Sent to Mrs. Cummings out of the £35 5s 1d.....	25	0	0
Which leaves for travelling expenses, clothing, &c.	£10	5	1
Paid for Travelling Expenses.....	12	6	8
For Clothing.....	8	12	0
For Lodgings	2	12	0
	£23	10	8
Conference donated to G. P. Dykes	11	15	5
To J. Forssgren	3	7	0
	£15	2	5

Elder Robbins then arose and said—Brethren and sisters—I realize the responsibility that rests upon me, in succeeding Elder Cummings to the Presidency of this Conference, and judging from what I have seen in my travels in the Conference during the past week, I am confident we can roll on the work of God. Having heard the motions this morning, I feel to sanction them all. I have been in council with Elders Cummings, Long, Brewerton, and others, and have learned their manner of doing business in the Conference. The Priesthood should be honoured, whether Elder, Priest, Teacher, or Deacon. Every man must be respected in his sphere, and if a man be found dishonouring the priesthood, he wont have much honour from me. for I like to see the priesthood honoured. Let every Priest. Teacher, and Deacon attend to their various duties in the branches to which they belong. It wants as wise a man for a teacher as an elder, and it is sometimes a very difficult thing to find a man wise enough for that office. I'll add no more at this time, and may the blessing of heaven rest upon you. Amen.

The number of officers present were then called for, when it was ascertained that there were 5 Seventies, 27 Elders, 27 Priests, 16 Teachers, and 4 Deacons.

The Conference then adjourned till 2 p.m.

The Conference met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by singing, and prayer by Elder Gates. The representation of the branches was then read over by the Secretary; after which the President called upon the travelling Elders to state the condition and prospects of their respective fields of labour.

Elder Long arose and said, I feel great pleasure in rising to represent the district in which I am called to labour, for at the present time it gives me great satisfaction. I have visited the various branches in my district as often as circumstances would permit, and truly the spirit of unity and love predominates in their midst. The spirit of emigration is enjoyed to a great extent. The Sheffield branch in particular is in a very flattering condition, and I do not wish to attribute all the good that has been done to my labours exclusively, for the officers have been united with me in all things. I feel assured that many will, ere long, be brought into the church from the higher classes of society, for they are now beginning to investigate our principles and read our tracts, which we are distributing through the town. I pray that this spirit may increase with us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Elder Brewerton then arose and said—I have great pleasure in rising to give an account of my field of labour. The branches in my district, with one exception, are in a very flourishing condition. We are doing a good work there, not forgetting Elder G. E. Taylor, who has been labouring in that district. The Priesthood are united in their endeavours to spread forth the work of God. Elder Long has observed, that the spirit of emigration prevails in his district to a great extent; so it does with us, and our future prospects are very cheering. I pray God that the honest in heart may soon be gathered in. Even so, Amen.

Elder Hardy—Brethren and sisters—It is with pleasure I stand up to speak a few words relative to the district in which I am called to labour. I can say there is a good spirit there, and that the Chesterfield branch is in a better condition than ever I knew it before; any who knew the condition of that branch when I was appointed to it, know what a state it was in. With respect to the spirit of emigration that has been spoken of, I can say there is as much of it with us as any where else, and they would all emigrate, I have no doubt, if they had the means. My desire is to finish my work in this land, and then go to Zion, and prepare for somewhere else. I pray that success may attend our labours. Even so. Amen.

Elder Slack—It is with pleasure I stand before you at the present time to speak of the Mansfield district. It is known to all that it was raised up in a very short time by Elder Roger and a few others. At present it is in a good condition, and there is a good prospect of a great ingathering the next season. The spirit of Emigration is good. They would all go, I presume. if they could, and there could be no time when I should rather leave the Mansfield district than at the present, on account of the good spirit that prevails. May the work go on and prosper. Amen.

Elder Kirk—Beloved brethren and sisters—I cant say a great deal in favour of the Doncaster district; I wish I could. When I went there I thought I was going to baptise a great many, but when I found that impossible I tried to get as many of the Saints to emigrate as possible. We have sent 19 to Zion, and there are 14 more going with us in January next. It matters not who goes there they will not do a great deal of good, because there is only one class of people who belong to us, namely. the honest in heart, and inasmuch as they do not reside there, we cant expect to baptise many.

Elder G. E. Taylor—I have listened to the brethren with pleasure and sometimes with pain, while they were giving an account of their planting and pruning; and now I wish to talk a little about ploughing and sowing. When I went to Worksop I found two Saints. They fed me, and manifested a willingness to help me to roll on the work of God. I have preached a great deal there without much success, but the prospects at present are more favourable. I am very sanguine about Worksop myself, and think there will be many gathered out from that place. I pray God to roll on the work. Even so. Amen.

It was then voted by the Conference that President Cummings be presented with a Memorial, and the following was unanimously adopted :—

"We, the officers and members of the Sheffield Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in Conference assembled, on this the 24th day of November, 1850, do hereby present our esteemed and much beloved President, Elder J. W. Cummings, with this Memorial, as a token of friendship which we hold towards him. During his labours in this Conference he has been the means of restoring the spirit of unity, peace, and love among the Saints throughout this large Conference, and of building us up in the most holy faith by his wise and timely counsel, to do which he has spared neither labour nor pains. His labours to impart to us a knowledge of the order and the beauty of the kingdom of God, have been of the most incessant and indefatigable nature—in short, he has been instant in season! During his presidency there has been more than 700 added to the church by baptism, and the spirit of emigration has been stirred up in our bosoms to a far greater extent than ever it was before this bold messenger of the Lord of Hosts came in our midst, and now as the circumstances of his family call for his return, we feel to part with him with regret; yet we are willing to make our minds bend to duty, and to send him away with our faith and prayers, and an abundance of means to enable him to remove and comfortably to settle his family in the valley of the Great Salt Lake, and we pray our Father in heaven to let his protecting care be round about him and his, henceforth and forever, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

"J. V. LONG, on behalf of the Conference."

The President then arose and said, I thank the Saints for the love and esteem which they have manifested towards me upon this occasion as well as upon all others. Inasmuch as there are a goodly number of Saints present, I wish to speak a few words upon the order of the church of Christ. The right of a president of a conference to nominate men for office, or suggest officers to preside over branches, has been questioned by some. In order to fully understand the matter we have only to refer to the Lord's manner of doing business Twenty years since there was not a man on the earth that could lead the human family to celestial glory. About that time God spoke from the heavens, sent angels to confer the holy priesthood upon man, the Lord did not ask the pope, bishop, or any other man whom he should appoint to usher in this dispensation, but he appointed Joseph Smith, and the angels ordained him, and gave him authority to call and ordain others to assist in the work of the ministry, and thus was the Kingdom of God organised in these last days. The first Presidency of this Church has a perfect right to call and send forth whom they please to preach the gospel, and in like manner has the president of the British isles an undoubted right to appoint such men as he deems proper to preside over the various conferences under his jurisdiction; and no man has a right to question that authority, for it is God's appointment. In like manner has the president of a Conference a right to appoint a man to preside over a branch, or travel in the Conference over which he presides. And when a man

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appointed to preside, the Saints are called upon to sanction that appointment, and every Saint has a perfect right to vote for, or against it; but if they should all vote against it, it would not invalidate the legality of that appointment, as Elder Spencer observed in the council last night, "a man is at liberty to vote himself to hell if he chooses." I expect that Lucifer acted upon his agency when he rebelled and was cast out. The government of God is a *Theocracy*, it therefore differs from all other governments. I regret that some of the officers of the Sheffield branch should manifest such ignorance upon the subject; therefore let them learn the order of this kingdom, lest they should be found fighting against God, and like Lucifer, be hurled from their places. Therefore let Elder Roper, who has this day been appointed to preside over the Sheffield branch, magnify his high and holy calling, and see that iniquity and the spirit of division does not creep into the branch, and when you see a spirit of that kind manifesting itself, take decisive measures against it, and fear no man, but do your duty and you shall be blest.

I wish to say a word on emigration. Some fear we are going to counsel the saints to go to America to famish. It is the counsel for all the Saints to gather as soon as they can procure the means to do so; and if they have the means to go no further than St Louis, they had better go there than stay in this part of the country, for they can get the means there to prosecute the remainder of their journey much sooner than they can here; and no one need want the necessaries of life there, that will labour, and those that are not willing to labour for a living, had better stop in this country, for they are not wanted there. I will add no more, and pray that the choicest of heaven's blessings may abide with you, Amen.

Elder Robbins then arose and said—I will not detain you long at the present time, yet I wish to make a few remarks with respect to my appointment. You have heard what Elder Cummings has said, and as you have heard his counsel and instruction upon those matters, I want you to carry his instructions out when he his gone. If those who hold the priesthood neglect to magnify their calling, it is the privilege of the president of the Conference to remove them, without asking any man about it.

I wish the Saints always to do right and never to do wrong; therefore never do any thing but what you know is right, and then you will never do wrong. And to the travelling Elders, who go to preach let them remember that the people have feelings as well as themselves; this they should all consider, and to endeavour to avoid wounding them unnecessarily. If they will not hearken to the first principles of the gospel, it is useless to tell them of the glories of a celestial kingdom. May the blessings of Jesus Christ rest upon you, amen.

Adjourned till 6 p m. The choir sung a hymn, and prayer by Elder Spencer.

Met pursuant to adjournment, and after singing and prayer the President called upon Elder Works, who arose and said—

Brethren and Sisters—I feel thankful for the privilege of standing before you to make a few remarks, and beholding the spirit of God which beams in your countenances. I believe that when people are assembled together to transact business for the Lord, that it is necessary to have his spirit. I perceive that the same spirit prevails here, which prevails with the Saints in the valleys of the mountains, and I can say that the same prevails there as did in former days. Whenever God reveals his mind and will, it is as much for one as for another; for he sends his gospel to all men, that they may have salvation. For my part, I feel with the rest of you, that I have the privilege of living in a day when he has restored the priesthood, which is to subdue all nations. He has conferred the holy priesthood upon men, and given them power and authority to call other men. And although those men have been killed, yet they have laid the foundation of a great work, which is to roll forth until all nations shall have heard the truth. The prophet tells us, that in the last days, the Lord shall set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed. And as soon as the priesthood was restored, they began to persecute the servants of God, and many have perished and died because of their principles. The same persecution has followed us as followed those in ancient days; notwithstanding, the Lord has his eyes upon our enemies, and his hand over us, and has led us out by revelations and visions to a place of safety,

to be hid up in the mountains, until the besom of destruction shall have swept through the land; and I can bear my testimony to the truth of the Bible, the book of Mormon, and the book of Doctrine and Covenants, and to Joseph and Hyrum Smith brothers, being prophets of the most High God. And I would exhort the Saints to be faithful in all things, and they will have the privilege of mingling with those in Zion. I would rather be on the banks of the Mississippi river, without shoes or hat, than be bound down as you are. I pray God to bless you. Amen

Elder Spencer said—I get up brethren and sisters, feeling my own weakness and the responsibility that rests upon a man who is called upon to instruct the people of God, and without your faith and prayers I can not do it, but by the Spirit of the Lord, I am emboldened to go forth and magnify my calling. I have rejoiced to day to hear the counsel and instruction that has been given. This kingdom was first organised with six members, since that time its numbers have swollen to hundreds of thousands, and it has been accomplished by illiterate and unlearned men. I wish to speak with regard to Brother Cummings and his family. They have suffered much in this cause, and I wish you to make him a comfortable fit-out, for his voice raised in Zion will do more for this people than their gold can do for him. I feel that there are men here who are more capable of instructing you than I am. I will therefore give way. May God bless you with happiness and bliss, through Jesus Christ Amen.

Elder Gates—I am thankful for the privilege of meeting with the Saints here. This is the first time I have beheld your faces, and I rejoice in forming an acquaintance with you, which I hope may continue in time and eternity; and I rejoice that you and I have been made partakers of the gospel which has been restored in these last days, and of those principles which are calculated to make a man great in the sight of God, and fit to dwell in the society of good men and those who have gone before. We seem to have been sent here for an object, which object is to become acquainted with the truths and laws of heaven. There are a many things talked of in this day for the purpose of benefiting mankind. It is a question with some men what truth is. I consider that there are many truths, but when we speak of truth with reference to the salvation of mankind, we speak of the principles of life. All truths will admit of a demonstration. So it is with the truths of heaven. The Gospel is a science, and like every other science has its first principles, which are necessary to be known before a person can advance in the science. You know very well it is necessary to learn the first principles of any science before you can make proficiency in that science. You may hear them set forth in all their truth and plainness, but unless you obey you can never know them for yourselves, but must remain in uncertainty which is the misery of the damned, and without this demonstration all mankind will be miserable who might receive the doctrine. Did any one ever expect to be made perfect by the first principles of any science? Let the Saints understand, that without complete submission to the head there is no glory! I hold in my hand the book of Mormon, which has sprung out of the earth according to the testimony of the prophets of old, and it is necessary that you should believe this as well as all other good books, and it is necessary that you should believe the truth which comes from the servants of God in these last days. I pray that God may seal instruction upon your minds, that you may understand his will—that you may rise from one degree of glory to another till you are fit to present spotless before the Father, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Elder S. J. Lees—I should be afraid of wearying the patience of the Saints, were I to attempt to speak a long time, as the Saints have been much edified today. It is about nine years since I first received the Gospel in this town. I was one of the first who embraced it. I have laboured in various parts of this Conference, and nothing could give me more pleasure than to leave it in its present condition and good standing. I have ever been resolved to do anything and every thing to roll forth this work I dont wish to bring this up in comparison with what my brethren have done, for I have done a mere nothing compared with them. I feel highly honoured to have the privilege to emigrate with such a man as Elder

Cummings. I felt when he first came that he was the man we wanted to labour in this Conference. I say to the Saints that I shall not see any more—I feel to bless you, and I feel that you shall be blessed, (which was responded to by a loud amen, from many of the Elders.) Amen.

The Conference then adjourned *sine die*.

Benediction by Elder Works.

There was a Conference held in St. Ann Street Chapel, Nottingham, on Sunday, the 17th instant, to transact business for that district of the Conference. Much business was transacted, the meetings were well attended, unity of action characterized all our movements, and we were blessed with the spirit of the Lord.

On Tuesday, the 26th, a Tea Party was held in the Hall of Science, Sheffield, at which between two and three hundred partook of the bounties of the earth, after which we had a very sociable and lively meeting.

Address of Conference Book Agent.—JOHN MEMMOTT, 179, Rockingham-Street, Sheffield.

THE PRESIDENT'S FAREWELL REMARKS.

BELOVED SAINTS.

As I am about to leave my field of labour, and return to the land of Zion to mingle with the Saints in the valleys of Ephraim—I feel to say a few words to the Saints of the Sheffield Conference over which I have had the honor of presiding the past year. I entered upon my duties, as president of this Conference, the first day of January last. Since that time, I have been labouring in this Conference to the best of my ability; and I rejoice, to say, the Lord has blessed my labours and crowned them with success. Since I commenced my labours in this Conference, there has been added by baptism 700, to God be all the glory.

The officers for the most part have listened to and carried into effect the instruction I have given them from time to time. The travelling Elders, without one exception, have acted in concert with me. The Presidents of branches have also acted their part in rolling on the great work in this part of the vineyard.

The Saints have been made to rejoice in the gifts of the Holy Ghost, which have from time to time been made manifest in their midst. The Lord has blessed us, and we have rejoiced together. The sick have been healed, the blind made to see, the lame to walk; those manifestations of the power of God you have witnessed, through the ordinances of his house. Therefore, you have realized the fulfilment of the promise of our Lord and Master, "*these signs shall follow them that believe, &c.,*" which has strengthened your faith, and increased your joy in the Lord. How thankful ought we to be to the Lord as Saints, for privileging us to live in an age to enjoy such glorious blessings. To live on the earth when God should set his hand to gather Israel, for the last time, and bring in the Millenium, is what has been desired by kings and prophets, that have long since passed from this stage of action. This generation is blessed with the privilege, but how little do they appreciate the blessing.

By the lamp of revelation, we are enabled to discover the ignorance of the religious world. By it we are enabled to behold them in darkness, ignorant, and naked, for they are destitute of the knowledge of God. But we should remember that a few years since, we were in the same deplorable condition. We also were ignorant of the great plan of salvation. Twenty years since God made known

the gospel to Joseph Smith, by the ministering of angels, and the revelations of the Holy Spirit. God at that time restored the Holy Priesthood to man on earth. Organised his kingdom with apostles, and prophets, &c., &c. Since that time hundreds of thousands have been made to rejoice in the knowledge of God, having received the gift of the Holy Spirit, which has shown them things past present, and to come. To establish the kingdom of God upon the earth, in these last days, has cost the best blood that has flowed through human veins since the crucifixion of Christ—Joseph Smith, the man God chose to usher in this dispensation, and his brother Hyrum, have sealed their testimony with their blood. Many of the Saints have also laid down their lives for the gospel's sake. "*they rest from their labours, and their works do follow them.*"

The flood gates of hell have been opened, and have poured forth their foul calumnies against the servants of God, which has been heralded forth from press and pulpit as upon the wings of the wind. Yet the kingdom of God is onward in its march, and bids defiance to earth and hell; for it is founded upon the rock revelation, and the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is its maker and builder. As the prophet Daniel has said, it will break in pieces all other kingdoms and systems, and will stand for ever! The world for the last twenty years has been trying to traduce and vilify the character of the servants of God, but in every instance have failed to substantiate their base accusations. The Saints stand exonerated before God, angels, and all good men; while their calumniators gradually sink beneath the pondrous weight of their own sins and corruptions, and if they do not speedily repent will go down to perdition, be damned, and receive their portion with the hypocrite and unbeliever.

The apostles and prophets of the nineteenth century, like those of former times, have suffered martyrdom for the gospel's sake! The Saints have been driven from city to city, and from state to state, and after suffering the most unparalleled persecution—the martyrdom of their best men—having been exiled and at last compelled to seek an asylum in the wilderness, amidst the snow capt mountains of Ephraim. There they have established Zion in the tops of the mountains; unfurled the banner of freedom to the breeze, and bid all nations, sects, parties, kindreds, tongues, and people welcome to her peaceful habitations.

There and there alone can the poor weary Latter Day Saint rest, and worship Almighty God, and keep his commandments. And to that land are all the Saints commanded to gather.

Notwithstanding the flood of persecution and opposition the church of Christ has had to contend with in this our day—she yet lives, and triumphantly rides the storm to the utter astonishment of a wicked apostate world; who have with falsehood, calumny, sword, musket, and fire used their utmost exertions to banish the saints from the face of the earth.

Amid those scenes of persecution and death have the servants of God left their families unprotected, save by the God of heaven. Without purse or scrip gone forth—crossed sea and land—planted the standard of truth upon continents and islands, and thousands are now rejoicing in the knowledge of the gospel of Christ!

The world need no longer be in doubt and uncertainty upon that all important subject "THE GOSPEL," for all that will obey the gospel can know for themselves whether the doctrine be of men or of God! Hence, the Saint possesses that which the world can neither give nor take away! The gospel the Latter Day Saints preach will prove a savor of life unto life, or of death unto death to all of Adam's fallen race. It is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and will save all in the presence of God, that will obey it and prove faithful to the end! While those that reject it have no promise of salvation! If you ask me upon what I found my assertion, I would answer upon the revelations of Jesus Christ, both ancient and modern, for the bible, book of Mormon, and revelations given to Joseph Smith, all declare the same thing. Therefore, I am justified in making the assertion; for I am confident the Lord would not give a revelation in these day

that will not accord with those he has formerly given! Therefore, faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, repentance, baptism for the remission of sins, and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, are all as essential to the salvation of man, in this age, as they were 1800 years ago. No man could in that age be saved without giving obedience to them. Neither can they in this! I am aware those doctrines are universally rejected and despised, by priests and people, both religious and irreligious; and those that believe and practice them are belied, persecuted, and killed, as not being worthy to live. It was so in former times. For when ever the Lord has lighted up the world with the spirit of revelation, the corruption and iniquity of it has been brought to light, which has caused many to despise God and all those that keep his commandments.

If this generation will be saved, they must believe and practice the same gospel that was taught and practiced by Christ when he was on the earth. Those that will do so, and gather to Zion will be saved. While those that reject the testimony of the servants of God, that have been sent forth in these last days, will like the antideluvians perish. For the Son of man will shortly make his appearance on the earth Not to be crucified by those who reject new revelation, as he was in the days of his flesh; but he will appear in his glory to destroy such characters from the earth, and reign in glory over his saints. Remember the Antideluvians, and Sodom and Gomorrha perished for rejecting the revelations given immediately to them! Therefore, may the history of the past be indelibly inscribed upon your minds, lest you by neglecting the counsel of God perish as all have in former ages, who have rejected the revelations given to them! This is the dispensation of the fulness of time, in which the great work of restitution is to be performed upon the earth. Therefore, let every Saint be faithful and diligent in the work of the Lord. And you that have received the priesthood, clothe yourselves with salvation; raise your voices and testify that God has in the last days spoken from the heavens; that angels do minister to men on the earth; that the kingdom of God is established; and that all both priests and people are called upon to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of their sins. At the same time let your example correspond with your precept. If you will do so, you will have the pleasure of seeing thousands flock to the standard of truth, who will rejoice with you in the kingdom of God, and glorify the name of the redeemer on the earth.

In conclusion, I would say to the Saints, contend for the faith that was enjoyed by the ancient worthies, and leave the world with their hireling priests to contend about their rotten systems. And while they are playing the death march of confusion, upon the discordant strings of protestantism and catholicism, the saints will rise in majesty and glory. The blazing gospel light will beam forth from Zion, and her borders will be enlarged, while her sons and daughters will enjoy the sweet communion of angels and the holy spirit, and their songs of rejoicing will ascend up unto the God of Israel.

Thus shall the Saints rejoice, while the wicked are weeping and wailing for the dissolution and destruction of Babylon.

I bear my testimony to the revelations contained in the *Bible, book of Mormon, and Doctrine and Covenants. They are true and will be fulfilled to the letter.* JOSEPH SMITH was a prophet of the most high God; he has ushered in the dispensation of the "fulness of time," and sealed his testimony with his blood; and we are enjoying the blessings of the same, and basking in the sunshine of revelations. And my prayer to God is that we may all continue faithful, that we may wear a crown of celestial glory, and reign with the Redeemer on the earth.

I bid you farewell, but not for ever, for if faithful, we shall all meet in Zion, and may it be our happy lot, even so amen. Praying that you may daily add to your numbers such as shall be eternally saved: that the honest in heart may be speedily gathered to Zion.

I subscribe myself, your brother and humble servant, in the covenant of peace

J. W. CUMMINGS.

FAREWELL ADDRESS.

FAREWELL dear friends! we now must part,
But let this record tell,
How we have lived, and labour'd hard,
To save a world from Hell!
Amidst the sneers and scoffs and fears
Of hireling priests and press!
Still we have found our standing ground,
And made their numbers less!

Tho' now from you I must away,
Another one shall come,
Whose spirit-stirring teachings, may
Record a larger sum.
Tho' conscious I have done my best,
A *greater good may be*,
And while your name shall rise in fame,
Your works shall gladden me.

Be constant, prayerful, thoughtful, wise,
Let love your actions guide,
Be sympathising, nor despise
The dark'nd sinner's pride.
Truth found us all, in misery's thrall,
Thick darkness and dismay,
T'was gospel light, infused new sight,
To see this glorious day.

Then boldly meet the foe of man,
Nor fear the tyrants frown!
"The thoughtful they shall understand"
The wicked be put down.
While vengeance pour, and death devour,
For God has said it should!
'Mong fallen men, be valiant then,
To save the truly good!

Farewell! forever, I'll not say!
I know we yet shall meet,
Perhaps in Zion, far away!
In heaven! or *here* we'll greet.
It matters not, where'er our lot,
Or destiny be cast—
There's one thing sure, the *meek* and *pure*,
Will *reign with Christ* at last.

[illegible]YON.

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